

TORRANCE HERALD

June 19, 1947

Torrance, California

Section B

Many School Districts Vote To Add Taxes

Torrance is not alone among school districts of California asking for special taxes to meet school cost needs, although the situation of Torrance schools is unique in that they are deprived of State school support during the first year of operation.

The people of Torrance City School district will vote on July 22 on the question of adding 50 cents to the 90 cents per \$100 assessed valuation elementary school tax for one year only. This is to make up partially for the loss of some \$180,000 in state funds which go to Los Angeles during the next school year, based on the average daily attendance of the schools of Torrance this year while under Los Angeles control.

According to Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull, the following school districts have held elections which have carried for increasing the tax rate for the coming year. They are: Baldwin Park, Bassett, Belleview, Clearwater, El Monte elementary, El Monte Union High, Glendora, Hermosa Beach City, Inglewood City, Las Virgenes, Leona, Mountain View, Rosemead, San Gabriel, South Pasadena City, South Santa Anita, South Whittier, West Covina, Wilsona, Artesia, Bellflower, Carmonita and Elizabeth Lake, Claremont Unified, Excelsior Union High and Pomona High.

The following school districts will have special elections during July and August, at which time they will vote upon increasing the tax to support their schools: Alhambra high school, Compton Union High and Compton Junior college, Covina Union High, El Monte Union High, Pasadena High and Junior college, Los Nietos, Old River, Palmdale, La Verne City, Saugus Union, Torrance City, Rivera, Redondo Union High, Redondo Beach City, Manhattan Beach City, Glendora, Antelope Valley Joint Union High, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach City, Compton City, El Camino Junior college, Palos Verdes, South Pasadena and San Marino High, Inglewood City and Alameda.

Hull declared: "Most of these districts are raising their taxes 25 to 50c and only two of them are having the election for a period of only one year. These are Torrance School district and Redondo Union High School district. The rest of them are voting these extra taxes for periods of three, five or ten years. This information should make it clear to those interested that the request of the Torrance Board of Education for extra funds for a period of one year in order to help get started when no state aid is available, is a reasonable minimum request which the voters should willingly approve, if they are interested in the education of Torrance children."

Summer Playground Program In City In Doubt Due To Lack Of Finances

Whether or not Torrance will be able to maintain an adequate summer playground program this year is a question of finances—both municipal and school—it was reported this week. In the past Los Angeles has assigned playground directors to Torrance schools to supervise games during the summer.



AWAITS BIG BANG—Here we have pretty Lillian Wells, screen actress, booming up the American Legion's County Council annual Fourth of July Fireworks Show at the Coliseum by posing with a giant cracker. A complete circus will be combined with the fireworks display this year.

Annual July 4 Show Scheduled For Coliseum

Combination of the largest fireworks display in the world and the nationally famed Polack Brothers circus was announced today for the 15th annual Fourth of July show at the coliseum.

Announcement was made by William J. Schuessler, commander of Los Angeles County Council of the American Legion, following a meeting with C. K. (Jack) Steele, chairman of the Legion's ways and means commission and Harry Myers, managing director.

For the first time in the 15-year history of the July 4th fireworks show at the coliseum, all seats will be reserved. Commander Schuessler revealed that tickets may be obtained now at any Thrifty Drug store throughout the county, as well as Southern California Music Co., 637 S. Hill st., Los Angeles. There are only two prices; \$1.50 and \$2.50, with kids under 12 admitted for 75c.

The City Recreation department has been conducting regular summer programs, including softball leagues and other contests.

This year the Torrance City Board of Education finds itself in a position of being without funds for the operation of summer playgrounds, but willing and anxious to conduct them if the funds can be provided. Schools will get no tax funds until November.

Also, this year the City Recreation department finds its funds curtailed to a degree which threatens to deprive the youngsters of Torrance of their usual park athletic program. The status of finances of the two bodies was subject to a recent discussion between the Board of Education and the City Council, in an effort to work out a joint program.

It was suggested this week by local authorities that the \$6,000 which the City of Torrance appropriated to buy from Los Angeles the Fern avenue school lot at El Dorado and Fern avenues, might be directed to operation of the parks and playgrounds during the summer.

The Superior court restrained Los Angeles schools from selling the site to the city, ruling that it is the property of the Torrance City School District, not Los Angeles. The restrainer came at a time when Torrance City treasury was preparing to pay the \$6,000 to Los Angeles.

Officials have said they will give this thought early discussion.

'Learn To Swim' Classes To Open Monday, June 23

The annual "Learn to Swim" program sponsored by the American Red Cross, opens Monday, June 23.

Boys and girls and men and women of this area desiring to learn to swim free of charge are asked to register at the Gaffey St. Pool, San Pedro, Cabrillo Beach, Inglewood High School, Leuzinger High or Compton Junior College, with the instructor in charge.

A total of 23 municipal and other pools are participating in his year's "Learn to Swim" project which, during the summer of 1946, saw a new all time record set in the number of Red Cross "beginners" certificates awarded.

The free swimming classes will be conducted every morning, Monday through Friday, at hours to be established by the pool directors.

Although the classes will be geared primarily to the non-swimmer, lessons in advanced and life saving will be given if the demands necessitate such a move, it was pointed out this week.

The Los Angeles charter of the Red Cross, provides leadership training for the instructors so that bona fide American Red Cross certificates may be claimed by "graduates."

Pringle Attends Inauguration Of College Head

O. L. Pringle, vice president in charge of operations for Columbia Steel Company, west coast subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, represented Carnegie Institute of Technology at the inauguration of Robert Edward Burns as president of the College of the Pacific at Stockton, Monday.

Selection of Pringle for this honor was contained in a letter from Robert E. Doherty, president of the Carnegie Institute of Technology. Pringle graduated from the Pennsylvania institute in 1911.

SHASTA COUNTY FISHING
Anglers were enjoying some first-rate sport last week on the streams and lakes of Shasta County. Both bait and fly fishermen had particularly good luck on McCumber Lake.

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